

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**COUNTRY **East Germany**

REPORT

TOPIC **Soviet Transportation Agency at Frankfurt/Oder**

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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24 August 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In June 1955, the Soviet transportation control agencies were in existence in Frankfurt/Oder, namely the Sovetskaya Kommandatura Upravlenye (Soviet Transportation Control Headquarters) (SKU) at the Frankfurt marshalling yard, and the Soviet Railroad Transportation Office at the Frankfurt/Oder passenger station. It appeared that the latter office was better informed on transportation matters, but it had no authority of command over the SKU. From telephone talks conducted with Russian interpreters attached to RBD Berlin it was inferred that a Soviet transportation office was also in existence there.¹ (sic)

2. The SKU was located on the second floor of the operations building at the Frankfurt marshalling yard and used three office rooms. Telephone extensions assigned to the office were No. 541 (commanding officer), 523, and 524. The telephone connections had been established by the GDR postal administration.² The officers of the agency and their dependents lived in an restricted area on Goethestrasse. The private telephone extension of the commanding officer of the agency was No. 542. Mail for the agency was directed through the Soviet kommandatura on Pushkin street in Frankfurt and was usually taken to the agency by two Soviet soldiers armed with submachine guns. All letters were sealed and receipts had to be made out for them.

3. Officers attached to the SKU included:

Lieutenant Colonel Krasowski,

Major Kuberkov

Captain

Senior

Senior

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One clerk and one driver besides four interpreters were also assigned to the SKU.³ The Soviet soldiers of the agency wore double-wing insignia on their caps and their left arms with a red star below it.

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5. The SKU at Frankfurt/Oder is some sort of forwarding agency for all military rail shipments to and from the USSR. Incoming trains are broken up and the freight cars forwarded individually or in groups. Trains to the USSR are assembled at Frankfurt/Oder by the SKU. Records for military shipments are exclusively kept by the commanding officer of the SKU who is informed by telephone about any incoming shipment which crosses the Oder bridge.

On the basis of the records kept in his "Plansollbuch 1955" the individual cars of the incoming trains are forwarded to individual places of destination. The distribution of the cars is entered in a special book made out for the interpreters. The pages of this book are numbered and when all pages are written up the book is taken away. In this book the shipments are only marked with index numbers and shipment record numbers. Interpreters are unable to determine the type of goods involved from these numbers. If shipment record numbers are illegible, the interpreters at the SKU in Frankfurt/Oder call their counterpart at the Soviet transportation control headquarters attached to RBD Berlin. This communication is established over the railroad telephone system. The telephone extension of the Soviet agency in Berlin is 899/23755.

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7. It is the mission of the Soviet Railroad Transportation Office at the Frankfurt/Oder passenger station to direct shipments arriving from Brest-Litovsk to their destination in the GDR. The agency is also informed about all shipments dispatched from the GDR to the USSR. The Soviet Railroad Transportation Office is located on Bahnhofstrasse opposite the passenger station. One Soviet lieutenant, colonel, one major, and two senior lieutenants were assigned to this agency.
1. Comment. It is believed that the SKU is a military forwarding agency. 25X1 Within the German military transportation system, such forwarding agencies were located at major marshalling yards and had the mission of forwarding individual cars or groups of cars below train strength. It is quite possible that the SKU was directly assigned to a central agency in Berlin. The Soviet Railroad Transportation Headquarters mentioned by source may be a field office of the Central Soviet Railroad Transportation Headquarters in Berlin. Soviet railroad transportation headquarters are attached to each of the 8 RBDs.
2. Comment. It appears improbable that the SKU is connected to the telephone network of the postal administration and not to the railroad telephone system. At the end of paragraph 4 it was stated that the railroad telephone system was used for communications with Berlin. 25X1

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